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REMARKS

Claims 15 to 18, 22, 24, 26, 27, and 29 to 47 have been canceled without prejudice in a first Preliminary Amendment. Amendments have been made to Claims 9, 14, 19, and 28 to convert the claims from multiple-dependent form. An amendment of an editorial nature has been made to Claim 6. Support for the amendment to Claim 23 is found in the application at page 5, lines 28 and 29. No new matter has been added. Claims presently pending are Claims 1 to 14, 19 to 21, 23, 25, and 28.

A marked-up version of the claims amended, showing the changes made, is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

6. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a PERK polypeptide, a fragment of a PERK polypeptide having PERK activity, or a polypeptide having PERK activity, comprising a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of: [(b)] (a) a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule consisting of [SEQ ID NO:1], or a complement thereof under low, moderate or high stringency hybridization conditions wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a PERK polypeptide or a polypeptide having PERK activity; and (b) a nucleic acid molecule degenerate with respect to (a), wherein the nucleic molecule encodes a PERK polypeptide or a polypeptide having PERK activity.
9. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of [any of claims 1 to 8] claim 1, wherein the PERK polypeptide comprises a PERK1 polypeptide.
14. (Amended) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid molecule of [any of claims 1 to 4] claim 1 and a constitutive promoter sequence or an inducible promoter sequence, operatively linked so that the promoter enhances transcription of the nucleic acid molecule in a host cell.
19. (Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of [any one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1.
21. (Amended) A host cell comprising the recombinant nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 [or the vector of claim 19], or progeny of the host cell.

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23. (Amended) A plant, a plant part, a seed, a plant cell or progeny thereof comprising the recombinant nucleic acid molecule of [claim 15 or the vector of claim 19] claim 14.
28. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by and/or produced from the nucleic acid molecule of [any of claims 1 to 4, or the vector of claim 19] claim 1.

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